



Europäisches Patentamt  
European Patent Office  
Office européen des brevets



(11) Publication number : **0 466 435 A3**

(12)

## EUROPEAN PATENT APPLICATION

(21) Application number : **91306178.4**

(51) Int. Cl.<sup>5</sup> : **H04S 3/00, H04S 7/00**

(22) Date of filing : **08.07.91**

(30) Priority : **09.07.90 JP 180892/90**  
**22.04.91 JP 118099/91**

(43) Date of publication of application :  
**15.01.92 Bulletin 92/03**

(84) Designated Contracting States :  
**DE FR GB**

(88) Date of deferred publication of search report :  
**26.08.92 Bulletin 92/35**

(71) Applicant : **SONY CORPORATION**  
**7-35, Kitashinagawa 6-chome Shinagawa-ku**  
**Tokyo (JP)**

(72) Inventor : **Fujishita, Kaneaki**  
**c/o Sony Corporation, 7-35 Kitashinagawa**  
**6-chome**  
**Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo (JP)**  
Inventor : **Sato, Kazuhiro**  
**c/o Sony Corporation, 7-35 Kitashinagawa**  
**6-chome**  
**Shinagawa-ku, Tokyo (JP)**

(74) Representative : **Nicholls, Michael John et al**  
**J.A. Kemp & Co., 14, South Square, Gray's Inn**  
**London WC1R 5LX (GB)**

(54) **Surround audio apparatus.**

(57) A surround audio apparatus is comprised of an input terminal to which a stereo audio signal encoded for surround reproduction is supplied, an analog-to-digital converter for converting the stereo audio signal supplied to the input terminal into a digital audio signal, a digital signal processor for decoding the digital audio signal converted by the analog-to-digital converter in a surround stereo reproduction fashion to output a digital surround signal, a digital-to-analog converter for converting the digital surround signal from the digital signal processor into an analog surround signal, and an output terminal from which the analog surround signal from the digital-to-analog converter is delivered.

